d. 424.

THE RELIEF OF THE POORE: and ADVANCEMENT OF LEARNING: Proposed.

1027. d. 16 6

By HUMPHREY [illegible]ARROW, (during the War) a Member of the Armie.

Qui citò dat, bis dat.

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BRITISH
MUSEUM

TO HIS EXCELLENCY The Lord *HENRY CROMWELL*, Commander in chief of the Forces of *IRELAND*.

And the reſt of the honorable Commanders, and inferior Officers now, and late of the Army.

THAT Glorious Succeſs with which God hath crown'd your honorable Actions, in the reſcue of this pretious Land out of thoſe hands that without cauſe were imbrued in the blood of our Counrry; is yet ſo freſh and warme in every ingenuous heart, that (I hope) a Propoſal, tending to a ſacrificious gratitude to the Lord of Hoaſts, (by whoſe mercie and mighty arm, we are what we are) will not be unſeaſonably preſented to any perſon concerned in this Addreſs. Wherein I have humbly aſſumed the confidence to mind You of the pious Cuſtoms of the Soldiers and Servants of God in former Ages; nay of the laudable (though blind) Devo-

tions of Pagans and Infidels, as Sacred, and other History do (amply) manifeſt? Who no ſooner could ſound *Victoria* after a war, but up go the Alters, and on go the Sacrifices, in retribution of thanks to that Deity each held in veneration.

'Tis true, we have (in the progreſs of this War) afforded God ſome Days of Thanks-giving; and he (at laſt) having given us the iſſue of our hopes; the Bleſſing and Harveſt of our Blood and Sweat: thoſe would all look like dayes of helliſh Hypocriſie, if we ſhould not now preſent him with ſome Deeds of Thankſgiving; and Sacrifices being ceaſed, we have an Opportunitie to exerciſe what he loves better, which is, Mercie.

Not then to hold You any longer in the Porch of expectation, I here preſent You in one hand, the Aged, the Infirm, the Orphan, to be provided for by way of Hoſpital: and in the other hand, that yet-in it's-Morning (but hopefull) light of this Land, the Univerſity of *Dublin*, for Addition of Revenue. To carry on both which, I wiſh God would perſwade each heart herein concerned, to allow one Acre of Land out of each hundred, due to him; which granted, there is little doubt but the Adventurers, to whom God hath given ſo fair a Returne of their pious Loanes; and Purchaſers of Debentures, who have leaſt reaſon to oppoſe, will do the like: And the ſame deducted from each mans Proportion, to be caſt into a ſingle, or what ſeverall Parcels, the wiſdom of the Government ſhall judg convenient.

Perhaps ſome may object, That this Motion comes too late, much of the Land being already diſpoſed of; I anſwer, had it been thought of ſooner, it had been effected with leſs trouble, but) *Volenti nil difficile*, we ſhould not in the leaſt pauſe at the difficulty, were it to ſerve our owne particulars; and indeed, conſidered in the beſt ſenſe, it is ſo, if we expect a bleſſing upon the reſt of our Eſtates; or if there be any wiſdom in laying up treaſure in Heaven: for this ſhall be ſurer to your houſes, then the braines of all the Lawyers that ever trod *Weſtminſter* Hall met in one ſcull, can make the reſt.

For who knows how ſoon, prodigall Heirs (ordinarily the Iſſue of penurious Fathers) ſhall make havock of thoſe Eſtates, the hundredth part whereof, might, though not merit, have brought a bleſſing upon you to all eternitie. A fair warning for the obſervance of that precious inch of Scripture, *While ſt you have time do good*; leaſt while you are rotting, your Heirs be revelling; and they damned

for

for ſpending upon their luſts, what you were damned for denying the Lazar.

And if there be any (though I hope better things) that ſhall ſtrain at this Gnat, I wonder how they would have behaved themſelvs towards that Camel, laid before the Young-man in the Goſpell, *All that thou haſt*. Remember the Widows mite, and the ſuperlative teſtimonie our Saviour gave of it. Poor woman! It was all ſhe had, and this a Fleece out of a flock.

And I dare affirme *Ananias* and *Sapphira* (laying aſide their lie) were Saints, compared to ſuch as ſhall ſay to this Propoſall, *I'll conſider of it*.

If we can pay the fourth part of our Rents to theſe Common-welaths, we may bluſh before the Angels to denie the hundredth part to the Common-wealth of Chriſt: For this is not to denude your walls of their hangings, to cover the fleſh of the poor; nor your Coaches of their leather, to make them ſhooes; your ſuper-neceſſarie pampred Steeds of their Horſe-cloaths, to make them Shirts; nor your Manger of their Provender, to fill their Ovens; though all theſe might well be abated to relieve the meaneſt Member of Chriſt. God hath given to many amongſt us vaſt Eſtates, large poſſeſſions; he hath given us the Land & labour of our Enemies, Beings that we neither built nor planted; nay he hath given us our lives for a prey, when thouſands as valiant, as pretious, as worthy as we, lie now rotting in contempible ditches. And ſhall we not help our Brethren to live with us? That Saying is as good as old, *Non nobis ſolùm nati ſumus*, we are not born onely for our ſelves; & I hope we did not altogether fight for our ſelves; but ſhall be tryed by this trifle, though what is here urged as an act of Charitie, and as yet carries no other face, may to after-ages be rendred an act of Politie; and that Suſtenance and Science being the ſubject matters here preaſt, who knows but that caſting his bounty and bread upon the waters now, he may after many dayes find them in the bellies and brains of his needy poſteritie.

Perhaps there may be ſome who ſet a low rate upon that Beauty and Glory of Humanitie, Learning, which ſanctified, reſtores

reſtores us neareſt to the Image of God: but if there be, (as I hope few) they muſt give me leave to believe they are ſuch as would have the eys both of Church and Common-wealth put out, that they might have the leading of them.

It was highly in queſtion which was the ſaddeſt Perſecution, that under *Diocleſian*, or that under *Julian* the Apoſtate; the firſt laboring the deſtruction of all the bodies of the Saints, and the laſt of all books, that no memory of God or Religion might remain: but the laſt was concluded infinitly tranſcendant, as a device that would have thrown the world into a deeper then Egyptian darkneſs.

'Tis true, there are many who (I have charity to believe) mean well, and much mind the enlargement of the bounds of the Church, and opening a way for the light of the Goſpel in it's puritie to ſhine upon the freckled face of the erronious World: But alas! that's hard to be done by a language that hath no acquaintance abroad; nor could ever travel farther then the verges of our own ſhores, ſave amongſt our own Colonies; and not communicable to other Natures by any univerſall Rule. I muſt needs grant, that Chriſt in the election of his Apoſtles, made choice of poore Ignorant laboring men; but I hope none will denie, that though he found them ſuch, yet after the ſealing of their great Commiſſion to preach the Goſpel, by the Holy Ghoſt, in cloven tongues, they went away the moſt ſublimated Scholars that ever were, or ſhall be upon the World; That Great School-Maſter in a moment diſpelling the miſt of deſpicable ignorance, and filling them with all Languages and requiſite Knowledge. And 'tis obſervable, that when God had a purpoſe to ſtay the Building of *Babel*, and ſcatter mankind into fractions; he confounds their ſpeech, and divides tongues to the Nations: but when he reſolves to build up his Church, he recollects them all into the Mouths of his Apoſtles. With ſome meaſure of which Qualification (immediate gift of tongues being ceaſed) the moſt eminent Servants of Chriſt, and faithful promoters of the purity of his truth, have from time to time, indefatigably labored by Nurſeries of Learning to endow the Miniſtry.

'Tis

'Tis true, Exhortations, Reproofs, Conſolations, and Directions in plain and patent matters, are highly commendable in thoſe of meaneſt parts; for they that feared the Lord, ſpake often one to another: but Preaching, Expoſition, and the unfolding of hidden Myſteries, do modeſtly call for ſanctified Learning and Authority. The management of which Aſſertion, I humbly leave to thoſe Champions of the Truth, whoſe Shields I am not worthy to bear.

And now craving pardon to my prolixity, glance once again upon the poore; and wiſh the moſt obdurate wretch to lay his hand upon his heart, and conſider, how his eares will one day tingle to hear that Soul-cruſhing charge of unkindneſſe from the mouth of the Son of God, *I was hungry, and yee fed me not.*

Adding onely this, If there be any heart ſo much Adamant, brow ſo much braſs, or minde ſo void of Mercie, as to ſet himſelf in poſitive Oppoſition to what is here ſuggeſted; or that his evil Example, or Coldneſs, cauſe this great Buſineſs to fall to the ground; he muſt give me leave to tell him, He runs the deſperate hazard of eternally ſinking under the weight of all the Curſes, that ſhall in bitterneſſe of ſpirit fall from the trembling Aged, Anxieted, Infirm perſons, and friendleſs Orphans, that ſhall ever languiſh upon the face of this fruitful Land, from this day to the day of Judgment.

In regard the effecting of this great Work may (to ſome dull ſpirits) ſeem difficult, the enſuing Suggeſtions are humbly offered to conſideration.

I.

That Commiſſioners of active ſpirits, and unbyaſſed Principles, be appointed to the management and carrying on of this buſineſſe.

II. That

II.

That the Muſter-maſters in the reſpective Provinces of this Dominion, be ordered to offer it to the Subſcription of every Officer relating to that part of the Armie, the next Muſter-day after he receive it from hence.

III.

That whereas ſome are in parcel poſſeſſion of their Eſtates, and out of employment: the High Sheriff of every reſpective Countie be ordered by himſelf, or his Subſtitutes, to tender it to the voluntarie Subſcription of every ſuch perſon, as alſo to all perſonally poſſeſt Adventurers, and purchaſors of Debentures; for the deduction of the proportion out of the part remaining due unto him.

IV.

That whereas many are in poſſeſſion of their full proportion of Lands, and conſequently no convenient way left for contributing their proportions in kinde; there are numerous preſidents of perſons ſo compleated, that offer their return in money, rateably as they received each Acre.

V.

That wheras it may be objected, that many ſo in poſſeſſion of their full proportions, are not provided with ready money: the High Sheriff of every Countie be ordered by himſelf, or his Subſtitutes, to tender it to the voluntarie Subſcription of every ſuch perſon, for the ſumme and time wherein they cheerfully conſent to pay it.

'Tis

VI.

That what money ſhall ſo be received, be paid into a Treaſurie appointed for that purpoſe in *Dublin*; and laid out in purchaſe of Land for the uſes aforeſaid.

VII.

That the Sheriffs of every reſpective Countie, be ordered yearly to give in their Account to their Succeſſors, before a full Bench of Juſtices.

VIII.

That the Sheriffs and Muſter-maſters aforeſaid, be ordered to return hither the names of all the Diſſenters, to the end that being here recorded, there may be no miſtake in the deductions.

IX.

That the Sheriffs do within twenty daies, return all the Subſcriptions to the Commiſſioners before-mentioned.

X.

That his Highneſs's Council for the affairs of *Ireland*, bee moved for their countenance to, and aſſiſtance in the promotion of it.

XI.

That his Highneſs the Lord Protector be moved to recommend it to the Adventurers in *England*, who are (ordinarily) cheerful contributors to works of this nature.

XII.

That the Chancellor of this Univerſitie be moved to a ſpeedy Rectification, and reſcue of it from Diſorder.

FINIS.

That what money shall so be received, be paid into a Treasurie appointed for that purpose in Dublin, and laid out in purchase of Land for the uses aforesaid.

That the Sherifs of every respective Counties, be ordered yearly to give in their Account to their Successors, before full Search of Justices.

VIII.

That the Sherifs and Waller-mellors aforesaid, be ordered to return hither the names of all the Dissenters, to the end that being here recorded, there may be no mistake in the deductions.

IX.

That the Sherifs do within twenty dayes, return all the Subscriptions to the Commissioners before-mentioned.

X.

That his Highness's Council for the affairs of Ireland, bee moved for their countenance to, and assistance in the promotion of it.

XI.

That his Highness the Lord Protector be moved to recommend it to the Adventurers in England, who are (ordinarily) sheered contributors to works of this nature.

XII.

That the Chancellor of this Universitie be moved to a fresh Rectification, and relaxe of it from Disorders.

FINIS.

B

My first Letter to my LORD, *wherein I enclosed the* PROPOSAL.

MY LORD!

I Had once a purpose to present this Address, and make it my own, but considering that all things of this nature derive their value and vigour from the countenance and power of those persons that are Primarily and Potently Motive; I thought it most expedient to put it into your Excellencies hand, as the onely person able to promote it to perfection. My LORD! as for Learning you have already own'd its Patronage; and for what concerns the Poor, you have great cause of confidence, that if you begin in Mercie, you shal end in Peace: And for my self I shall humbly crave you will believe, That if this paper finde the effect it seems to aime at, I have my end; onely shall beg to be esteemed,

My LORD!

Your Excellencies faithful and humble servant,

Sept. 12. 1655. HUMP. BARROW.

My second Letter to my LORD *upon the delay.*

MY LORD!

IT is not long since I presented your Excellencie a Paper of Motion to the *Relief of the poor*, and *Adning*; what value it found in your

yet happie to know, but have hope

that no Averſion of Will, but the croud of publick affairs have hurried it aſide, though I have unhappily heard of almoſt impoſſible difficulties charged upon it; And indeed my LORD, it was not much my wonder, there being nothing wherein the depraved conſtitution of man is more quick-ſighted, then ſpying Lions in the way to all good Works. My LORD; What I have propoſed, will (I hope) be deemed the requiſite promotion of Mercie and Truth, and if thoſe two be once ſhut out of our gates, 'tis greatly to be feared it will not be long before their old inſeparable companions Righteouſneſſe and Peace leap over the Walls. My Lord; I perceive, that if this languiſhing deſigne bee not kept alive by your Excellencies power, example, and perſonal induſtrie, it will inevitably die, but as certainly riſe again at the day of Judgment, to the confuſion of faces of all thoſe that have either neglected or oppoſed it, to ſave to themſelvs a Spade-full of uncertain dung: And My Lord, I humbly crave that to this great office of good to poſteritie, and honour to your ſelf, you will add a pardon to the preſumption of

MY LORD!

Your Excellencies faithful,

and humble ſervant,

Humph. Barrowe.

My

My first Letter to Doctor Harrison, *my* LORD'S *Chaplain.*

SIR!

FEw daies since I snatch an opportunitie in your presence to present some papers to my Lord, expecting your auxiliary endeavors to perfect a work which posteritie may blesse you for, but whether or no they were imparted to you, I am yet much to seek, and more unwilling to doubt there wants its fire, or the Priest a readinesse to receive in Sacrificers. Sir, if you are not already acquainted with it, this Gentleman who is laudibly zealous for it will inform you: Sir, the Condition of my Proposal is the same with that of *Bethesda* Cripple, it hath neither enemies, nor friends; but it is sad that so much preaching, and so much praying should not be seconded by that pretious and pertinent ornament of Christianitie, Pitie. Sir, wee do with a great deal of confidence own our selves upon God, sit before him as his people, and call to him for all mercies, safeties, and successes, and 'tis fit our eies should bee often up towards him, but sometimes down upon the poor; otherwise (which I much fear) wee shall run a course parallel with the Merchant Jew, who craves favour and credit from every man, but will trust no man. Sir, as for the *Advancement of Learning*, your manifest Education in, and high improvement of it, hath from the Pulpit saved me a labour, from whence one sentence of your Chrysostomiz'd exhortations to this glorious work, would be heard in a continued Eccho from generation to generation, till the

laſt Trumpet received it into the Conſort of Eternitie Sir, I crave your pardon to my importunitie, but you know whoſe buſineſſe it is, and further begs libertie to tell you, it was not for nothing that *Heſter* was ſet ſo near her King, *Joſeph* to *Pharaoh*, *Nehemiah* to his potent Maſter. Nor need I tell you, that the improvement of that great talent of advantage God hath given you, in the ear of that hopeful perſon (to whom you relate) will be (one day) required. And Sir I further crave, you will believe I write not this to move you, but to minde you; aſſuming onely the office of a ſilly Sexton, to toll the Bell of to duties of pietie, and am,

SIR,

Your ſervant

Novemb. 1. 1655.

Humph. Barrow.

My ſecond Letter to Doctor Harriſon.

LEARNED SIR,

I Have here incloſed ſent you a Copie of my late PROPOSALS, and another of my laſt Letter to his Excellencie, which it ſeems is miſ-laid; wherein I then incloſed a removal of all obſtructions, and anſwer to all objections which I could upon ſevereſt ſcruteny diſcern obvious, but ſhall not trouble you with that till I ſee in the great ONES a propenſitie to, and ſome progreſſe in the great buſineſſe, which I am confident had been in a good forwardneſſe, had I (wiſely) made a more timely application to your ſelf, upon whom (I may not omit to acquaint you) the eies of

the